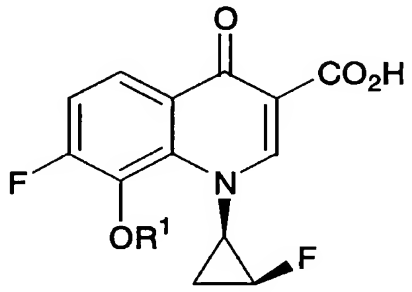
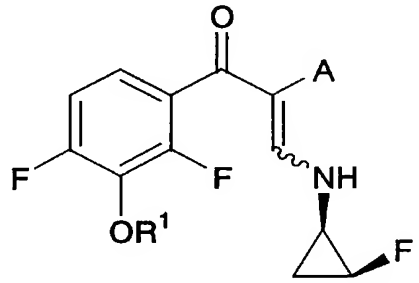
IN THE CLAIMS

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A method for producing a compound represented by the following formula (VI):



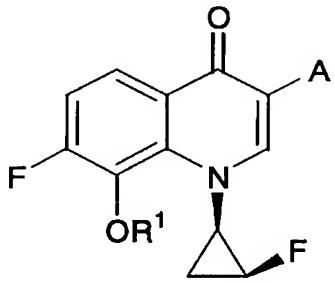
(VI)

wherein R^1 represents a lower alkyl group which comprises the steps of treating a compound represented by formula (IV):



(IV)

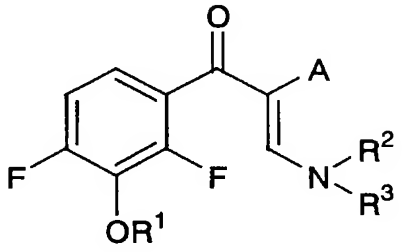
wherein R^1 is as defined above and A represents nitrile group or an alkoxycarbonyl group with potassium carbonate ~~a base~~ in DMF to produce a compound represented by formula (V):



(V)

wherein R^1 and A are as defined above, and hydrolyzing this compound.

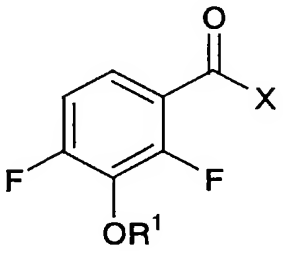
Claim 2 (Original): The method according to claim 1, wherein the compound represented by formula (IV) is produced by reacting a compound represented by formula (II):



(II)

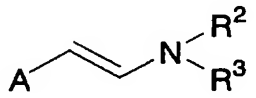
wherein R^2 and R^3 are the same or different lower alkyl groups and R^1 and A are as defined above with (1R,2S)-2-fluorocyclopropylamine.

Claim 3 (Original): The method according to claim 2, wherein the compound represented by formula (II) is produced by reacting a compound represented by formula (I):



(I)

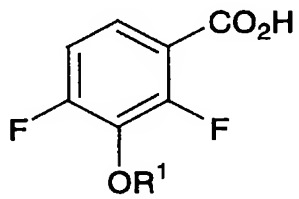
wherein R^1 is a lower alkyl group and X represents a halogen atom or an acyloxy group with a compound represented by formula (III):



(III)

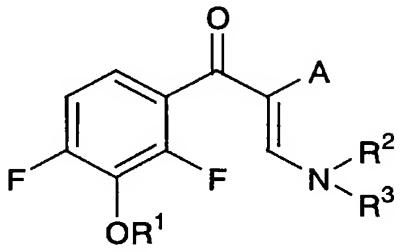
wherein A, R^2 and R^3 are as defined above.

Claim 4 (Original): The method according to claim 3, wherein the compound represented by formula (I) is produced by reacting a compound represented by formula:



wherein R^1 and X are as defined above with a halogenating agent or an acid anhydride.

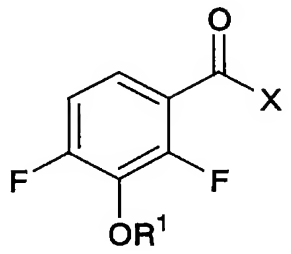
Claim 5 (Withdrawn): A compound represented by formula (II):



(II)

wherein R^1 represents a lower alkyl group, R^2 and R^3 represent the same or different lower alkyl groups and A represents nitrile group or an alkoxycarbonyl group.

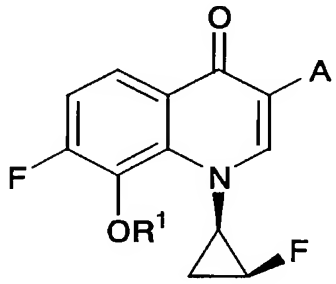
Claim 6 (Withdrawn): A compound represented by formula (Ia):



(Ia)

wherein R^1 represents a lower alkyl group and X represents an acyloxy group.

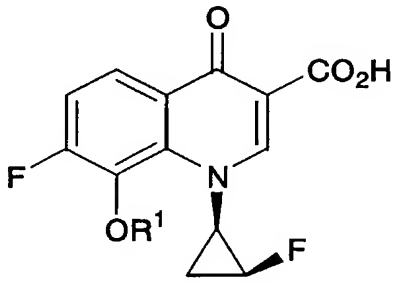
Claim 7 (Withdrawn): A compound represented by formula (V):



(V)

wherein R^1 represents a lower alkyl group and A represents nitrile group or an alkoxycarbonyl group.

Claim 8 (Withdrawn): A compound represented by formula (VI):



(VI)

wherein R^1 represents a lower alkyl group.

Claim 9 (Previously Presented): The method according to claim 1, wherein the group A is a nitrile group.

Claim 10 (Previously Presented): The method according to claim 2, wherein R^2 and R^3 are methyl groups.

Claim 11 (Previously Presented): The method according to claim 1, wherein R^1 is a methyl group.

Claim 12 (Previously Presented): The method according to claim 3, wherein X is a halogen atom or 2-methyl-6-nitrobenzoyl oxy group.

Claim 13 (Previously Presented): The method according to claim 4, wherein the compound of formula (I) is reacted with 2-methyl-6-nitrobenzoic anhydride.

Claim 14 (Previously Presented): The method according to claim 4, wherein the compound of formula (I) is reacted with at least one selected from the group consisting of acetic anhydride, trifluoroacetic anhydride and benzoic anhydride.

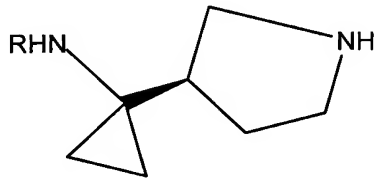
Claim 15 (Previously Presented): The method according to claim 4, wherein the compound of formula (I) is reacted with a halogenating agent or an acid anhydride at about a 1:1 stoichiometric ratio.

Claim 16 (Previously Presented): The method according to claim 2, wherein the compound of formula (II) is reacted with (1R,2S)-2-fluorocyclopropylamine in an acid form.

Claim 17 (Previously Presented): The method according to claim 1, wherein the hydrolyzing is carried out without decomposing the quinoline skeleton of the compound of formula (V).

Claim 18 (Previously Presented): The method according to claim 1, further comprising:

reacting the compound of formula (VI) with a compound of formula



Claim 19 (New): The method according to claim 1, wherein the compound represented by formula (IV) is treated with potassium carbonate in DMF at a temperature of from room temperature to 100°C for a period of from 1 to 24 hours.

Claim 20 (New): The method according to claim 1, wherein the compound of formula (IV) is treated with with five equivalents of potassium carbonates in relation to the compound of formula (IV).